NEWS RELEASE

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TWO SENTENCED TO PRISON FOR ROLES IN METHAMPHETAMINE CONSPIRACY

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on October 23, 2006, **JARROD L. HENSON**, age 27, of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. HENSON was sentenced to 218 months imprisonment, 10 years of supervised release, and a fine of \$750.00.

On October 30, 2006, co-defendant **LEROY REED BURKE**, **Jr.**, age 38, of Woodlawn, Illinois, was sentenced in the United States District Court in East St. Louis, Illinois. **BURKE** was sentenced to 101 months imprisonment, 8 years of supervised release, and a fine of \$750.00.

Both **HENSON** and **BURKE** had previously pleaded guilty to a one count indictment federal indictment which charged them and others with conspiracy to manufacture fifty (50) grams or more of methamphetamine.

The investigation in this case was a cooperative effort between the Joint Narcotics Unit of the Mt. Vernon Police Department and the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department, and the Drug Enforcement Administration, and other state and local law enforcement pursuant to their participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative. Project Safe Neighborhoods is a joint and cooperative effort of the United States Attorney's Office, the Jefferson County State's Attorney's Office, the Drug Enforcement Administration, and other federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies directed at removing guns and drugs from our communities.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood.